

The Wong Kung Daily Press

No 4424

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日三初月二十未辛治同

HONGKONG, FRIDAY, 12TH JANUARY, 1872.

五種

號二十月正英 港香

PRICE \$2 PER MONTH.

ARRIVALS.

Jan. 10, GLENDAHOCH, Brit. str., 954, Hall, Shanghai 7th January, General—*A Co. Head & Co.*
Jan. 10, STALKEIGH, Siam, brig, 289, Benedict, Chefoo 29th December, Beans.—CHINESE.
Jan. 10, COMPETITOR, Brit. ship, 737, Matthews, Whampoo January 10th.—*A Co. Head & Co.*
Jan. 11, DOUGLAS, British str., 613, Toppin, Foochow 7th January, Amoy 9th, and Swatow 10th, General—*D. LAFRAIK & Co.*

Departures.

Jan. 11, MIRAKEE, str., for Bombay, &c.
Jan. 11, DAY DAWN, str., for East Coast.
Jan. 11, ELLIS BROWER, for Bangkok.
Jan. 11, CANTON, for Saigon.
Jan. 11, EMMA, for Saigon.
Jan. 11, AURORA, for Seigon.
Jan. 11, SUNDIA, str., for Amoy.
Jan. 11, GLENDAHOCH, str., for Canton.

Clearances.

At THE HARBOUR MASTER'S OFFICE,
11TH JANUARY.
Oto, for Taku.

Passports.

For Doug as, str., from East Coast, —
Mr. Kirby and 70 Chinese.

Reports.

The Siam brig Starlight reports left Chefoo on December 29th, experienced variable winds and fine weather throughout the passage.

The British steamer Glendaoch reports left Foochow 7th January, bound for Amoy, and Swatow on the 10th, experienced the first part of passage from Foochow and thick foggy weather, middle part moderate monsoon and haze, the latter part moderate Northly winds and haze weather. On the 8th instant, passed the steamer Yu-ku-ssu, bound Norto, and the steamer Odessa, bound into Foochow; at 7 p.m. same day, passed a steamer of Ries Island bound North; the steamer Yeo, Bomby and Alay, were in Amoy; and steamers Aviator, Aspin, Corregidor and Lazon, were in Swatow when the Douglas left.

FOOCHOW SHIPPING.

(From Hodge & Co's Weekly Shipping Reports.)
January 5th, 1872.

December 20th, Canton, str., from Shanghai; 27th, Yoso, str., from Hongkong; 28th, Mary Blau from Hongkong, China from Chefoo, Harmon from Swatow; 29th, Kwangting, str., from Hongkong; Catharine from Newcastle, N.S.W.; 31st, Yen-tee-ter, str., from Taku; January 4th, Douglas, str., from Hongkong.

December 22nd, Tsinhsia, for Shanghai; 23rd, Mi'an, str., for Shanghai; Ping-an, str., for Shanghai; 24th, J. H. Jessen for Falmouth; 25th, U.S. Ashtel, for Foochow, Yoso, str., for Hongkong, China for Amoy; 30th, Kwangting, str., for Hongkong; 31st, Canton, str., for London.

SHANGHAI SHIPPING.

(From Hodge & Co's Weekly Shipping Reports.)
January 5th, 1872.

December 20th, Canton, str., from Shanghai; 27th, Yoso, str., from Hongkong; 28th, Mary Blau from Hongkong, China from Chefoo, Harmon from Swatow; 29th, Kwangting, str., from Hongkong; Catharine from Newcastle, N.S.W.; 31st, Yen-tee-ter, str., from Taku; January 4th, Douglas, str., from Hongkong.

December 22nd, Tsinhsia, for Shanghai; 23rd, Mi'an, str., for Shanghai; Ping-an, str., for Shanghai; 24th, J. H. Jessen for Falmouth; 25th, U.S. Ashtel, for Foochow, Yoso, str., for Hongkong, China for Amoy; 30th, Kwangting, str., for Hongkong; 31st, Canton, str., for London.

YOKOHAMA SHIPPING.

(From Hodge & Co's Weekly Shipping Reports.)
January 5th, 1872.

December 11th, Sunda, str., from Hongkong, Golden Age, str., from Shanghai; 14th, Ada from London, Diana from Hongkong, Arthus from Takow; 17th, John Milton from London; 18th, Sidoon from Marilles; 20th, Oregonian, str., from Shanghai; Witch from Hongkong; 22nd, Tsinhsia, for Shanghai; 23rd, Mi'an, str., for Shanghai; 24th, Westbury for Amoy; 11th, Gleam for Takow; 12th, Janet Holme, Haledon; 13th, Walton for New York, Margot for Balaklava; 14th, Costa Rica, str., for Shanghai; 15th, Clarify for Nagasaki; 16th, Macmillan for Nagasaki.

Auction Sales To-day.

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.
Sundry Articles.

AYRES & Co.—At 8.30 P.M.

Goods and Toys.

NOTICE.

THE Commission appointed under the hand and seal of His Excellency Governor Sir RICHARD GRAYES MACDONELL, K.C.M.G., C.B., &c., to inquire into the condition of the Police Force of this Colony, having commenced its sittings, all Persons who have any evidence to offer on any of the matters enumerated in His Excellency's Memorandum No. 632, will have an opportunity to offer for the greater convenience of the Police Force, requested to send their Names, with a list of the points on which they would wish to be examined, to the Secretary of the Commission, at the Supreme Court House.

ALFRED LISTER,
Secretary.

Supreme Court House, 1st, January, 1872.

SUMMARY OF POINTS ON WHICH HIS EXCELLENCE SUGGESTS INQUIRY.

A. Crime during past six years.
B. Increase or decrease, cause of: How far due to individual exertion.

C. Reports and suggestions of Messrs. DEANE and RICE, especially of the latter.
D. Divided Authority.

E. Fusion of all classes of the Police.

F. Present organization: Suggestions for re-form.

G. Sikhs, East Indians, and Negroes.

H. District Watchmen.

I. Police Fire Brigade.

NOTICE.

VICTORIA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY
OF HONGKONG, LIMITED.

FROM this date, there will be no charge for Policies issued by this Company.

AUGUSTINE HEARD & Co.,
Scorers.

ff 1872 Hongkong, 1st November, 1871.

WANTED.

A SITUATION.—A Merchant's Office, or Bank at any of the Ports of China, Shang-hai or Yoko-hama, preferable, by one who has great experience as a Book-keeper; writes a good hand, and can undertake corresponding on business matters.

Apply to E. V. C., care of the Editor of the *Daily Press*.

ff 1708 Hongkong, 6th October, 1871.

NOTICE.

VICTORIA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY
OF HONGKONG, LIMITED.

FROM this date, there will be no charge for Policies issued by this Company.

AUGUSTINE HEARD & Co.,
Scorers.

ff 1872 Hongkong, 1st November, 1871.

Banks.

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.
SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL \$5,000,000 Dollars.

Court of Directors.

Chairman—Hon. R. B. HOWARD.
Deputy Chairman—T. D. PEARCE, Esq.
A. José, Esq.
Wm. Lehman, Esq.
H. Mclellan, Esq.

Managers.

Hongkong—James Greig, Esq.
Chief Manager.
Shanghai—David McLellan, Esq.
London Banks—London and County Bank.

HONGKONG.

INTEREST ALLOWED.

On Current Deposit Account at the rate of 1 per cent. per month on the daily balance.

ON Fixed Deposits.

For 3 months' 2 per cent. per annum
6 " 4 " " " "

LOCAL BILLS DISCOUNTED.

Credits granted on approved Scutaries, and every description of Banking and Exchange business transacted.

Drugs.

Agents—of London, and the chief commercial places in Europe, India, Australia, America, China and Japan.

JAMES GREIG, Chief Manager.

Office of the Corporation.
No. 1, Queen's Road East.
Hongkong, 9th September, 1871.

FOOCHOW DOCK.

RIVER MIN.

THE MERCHANTS' MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY (LIMITED).

HEAD OFFICE—ROYAL EXCHANGE BUILDINGS, LONDON.

CAPITAL £1,000,000 IN 100,000 SHARES OF 20 POUNDS EACH.

FIRST ISSUE, 50,000 SHARES, 25 PAID UP.

Directors.

SIR A. ARCAL, 74, Lancaster Gate (Director of the National Bank of India); Firm, A. CAR & CO. Chalcots.

ALEXANDER FAIRLIE CUNNINGHAM (Director of the Credit Foncier of England, and of the London, Chatham and Dover Railway).

GEORGE HAY DONALDSON (Director of the English, Scottish, and Australian Charter-Bank); Firm, DUNLOP, LAMBERT & CO. Australia.

WILLIAM DUNN, Lime Street Square, Firm of WILLIAM DUNN & CO., Liverpool.

P. LUTSCHE, late PASTEUR BROTHERS, Austin Friars (Director of the Anglo-Egyptian Banking Company).

GEORGE MAGNAE, 44, Hamilton Terrace.

WILLIAM THOMAS MARTIN, Great St. Helen's, late of the Firm of MARTIN, DUCH & CO., Bankers.

JOHN THOMPSON REYNIE, 123, Finsbury Street, and Abberdon, Shipowner (Director of the Standard Bank of British South Africa).

SAMUEL SAUNDERS, late of Messrs. Butcher & Co., Alexandria.

The NATIONAL BANK OF SCOTLAND, Nicholas Lane, London, and its Branches.

Secretary.

JOHN SEED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

SHAREHOLDERS are hereby notified that in accordance with the 21st Article of the Articles of Association of the Company, the Fourth Call of Twelve Dollars and Fifteen Cents per share payable on the 1st December current, at 100 per cent. per annum, will be made on the 1st January, 1872.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

The Transfer Books of the Company will be closed on the Fifteenth day of December to the First day of January, 1872, both days inclusive.

By order.

A. NOEL BLAKEMAN,

Secretary.

2037 Hongkong, 6th December, 1871.

CHINA TRADES' INSURANCE COMPANY (Limited).

THE DIVIDEND of Dollars Four Hundred and Fifty (\$250) per Share declared at the Sixth Ordinary Meeting of Shareholders on the 28th day of November, 1871, will be payable on the 28th day of January, 1872.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

Dividends will be paid on the 28th day of January, 1872.

NOTICE TO MARINERS.

THE SUBMARINE TELEGRAPH CABLES.

1. Inland—The cable from Shantung now marked by two large buoys, paid red with black stripes on the upper half, is about 20 fathoms long, and in 20 fathoms water, will be visible 20 miles inland.

NOTICE TO MARINERS.

2. Offshore—The cable between Singapore and Hongkong, 36 fathoms in height from base to wave, the exception of the parapet, and window fittings, which are of granite, unpainted. The Light-keepers' dwellings and surrounding wall are painted white. The light-house is situated on Lat. 24° 10' 18" N. and Long. 118° 13' 30" E.

NOTICE.

THIS Association has declared a Dividend to the Policy holders for the fiscal year ending September 30th, 1871, of 15 per cent. on the net premium, payable at this Office, and after January 1st, 1872.

NOTICE.

Policy holders are requested to send in particulars of their contributions.

NOTICE.

THE INDO-CHINESE SUGAR COMPANY, LIMITED.

ff 2016 Hongkong, 29th November, 1871.

COAST OF CHINA.

NOTICE TO MARINERS.

CHAPEL ISLAND LIGHTHOUSE.

ON the 15th instant, the Chapel Island Light was lighted. The apparatus is Dioptric, of the First Order, lighting all round the horizon, a Fixed White Light, varied by Flashes at intervals of one minute. The centre of the light is placed 29 feet above High Water, and in clear weather it will be visible 20 miles inland.

NOTICE.

The light-house is 63 feet in height from base to wave, the exception of the parapet, and window fittings, which are of granite, unpainted. The Light-keepers' dwellings and surrounding wall are painted white. The light-house is situated on Lat. 24° 10' 18" N. and Long. 118° 13' 30" E.

AVIS.

LES Capitaines de navires passent auprès de l'ile se rendant à Amoy, sont priés de remettre les signaux qu'on peut leur faire de l'ile, de rendre tout secours nécessaire et possible, et d'envoyer le rapport au Commissaire des Douanes à leur arrivée à Amoy.

NOTICE.

Bureau du Capitaine de Port, 16 November, 1871.

AYRES & Co.

ff 2007, Inspector Distinctive.

NOTICE.

FOR SALE, by private contract, the Three Thousand Two Hundred GODWINNS situated on Island No. 70 opposite the premises formerly occupied by Messrs. FROST & CO. & CO.

The Chronicle and Directory for 1872.

NOW READY.

THIS Work, now in the TENTH year of its existence, is ready for delivery. It has been compiled and printed at the Daily Press Office, as usual, from the best and most authentic sources, and no pains have been spared to make the work complete in all respects.

In addition to the usual varied and voluminous information, the value of the "CHRONICLE AND DIRECTORY FOR 1872" will be further augmented by the addition of a Chromolithographic plate of the NEW CODE OF SIGNALS IN USE.

AT THE PRAK;

also of
THE VARIOUS HOUSE FLAGS
(Designed expressly for this Work);
MAPS OF HONGKONG, JAPAN,
and of the

COAST OF CHINA;
besides other local information and statistics corrected to date of publication, tending to make this work in every way suitable for Public, Mercantile, and General Offices.

The Directory will be published in Two Forms, Complete at \$6; or with the Lists of Residents, Port Directories, Maps, &c., at \$3.

Orders for Copies may be sent to the Daily Press Office, or to the following Agents:

Sandgate.....Mr. PATRICK CAMPBELL.

Away.....Moses WILSON, NICHOLS & Co.

Forres.....Mr. WILSON, NICKOLS & Co.

Phenix.....HEDD & Co.

Ningpo.....KELLY & Co., Shanghai.

Hankow and Kelly & Co., Shanghai.

Tientsin and Kelly & Co., Shanghai.

Peking.....Kelly & Co., Shanghai.

Nagasaki.....The C. & J. TRADING CO.

Hiroo, Osaka, The C. & J. TRADING CO.

Yokohama.....Moses LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

Manila.....Moore, J. DE LOZAGA & Co.

Saigon.....VON BARGEN & Co.

Singapore.....STRONG TIME & CO.

Calcutta.....English & O'Brien.

London.....Mr. F. ALAR, Clement's Lane.

Geo. STREET, 30, Cornhill.

Messrs. TURNER & Co.

BATES, HENDY & Co.

San Francisco, Mr. L. P. FISHER, 31, Merchants' Exchange.

New York.....Moses S. M. PETTINGILL & Co., 37, Park Row.

The delivery of the Daily Press from this office commenced on Tuesday morning at 8 A.M., and the last messengers left the office at 8.30.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, JANUARY 12TH, 1872.

We feel some reluctance in reopening the opium controversy which has been dragged before the public, because the matter which has given rise to the outcry has from the first seemed to us one rather for private settlement than for newspaper discussion. There have, as is perfectly well-known, been disputes about the delivery of Patna for some time past, and, as is not altogether new in regard to such matters, angry words have, in some instances, been used in the course of them; but the subject has never really been of a nature to interest the public at large, and has been very little more in reality than one of the disagreements familiar enough in China on the delivery of any cargo sold on time. It might perhaps be a very good principle to commence taking delivery of cargo by abusing the holder in the public papers, but, however desirable theoretically, it is not improbable that the plan, if generally resorted to, would be found inconvenient in practice. We shall not inflict upon our readers any polemical refutation of the remarks which have been made elsewhere, as the language in which they are couched will no doubt best establish their value in the minds of those who are not practically acquainted with the subject; while all who are conversant with the details of the trade, will be quite able to judge of the true merits of the question. One point only calls for notice. It has been stated that the "ordinary" weight of each chest of Patna Opium is 120 catties; but it is nevertheless admitted that, by drying up, it is reduced by $\frac{1}{2}$ catties, that is, in other words, that drug which would be lighter than ordinary packages at one time would be of average weight at another. This is really the point upon which the whole matter turns, and is the only one which, regarding the subject in a practical light, is worthy of consideration.

Can it then be established, by any possible means, what is the ordinary, or, to use a more accurate term, the average weight of a chest of Patna opium sold on time? If this can be done, there will be an end to the existing custom, which is undoubtedly to be objected to, for nothing else, because it leaves the door open for unfair accusations to be preferred. Everyone engaged in business is familiar with the ordinary operation of the Banks in regard to Mexican Dollars. They import dollars, which they sell at a premium; but, in making payment, they do not give better than the ordinary current dollar. This is precisely analogous to the difference between the operations in imported drug and time operations, which are known to be for the drug current on the market. It can scarcely be held that the Banks are guilty of any fraud in not paying to people to whom they are indebted for so many current dollars, the same number of the dollars they import. They are liable for current, not imported dollars, and pay current, not imported dollars; and just so the seller of opium on time is liable for current, not imported opium, and pays current not imported opium. It is, therefore, manifestly absurd to say that one or two holders are guilty of fraud because they wish to deliver opium of the kind—and in one instance the identical package—which they have themselves had to accept in time operations. The chests are admittedly light, just as ordinary current dollars are light as compared with clean dollars; but surely no one would claim in an ordinary transaction to be paid only in clean Mexicans, unless this had been expressly stipulated. Until quite recently, buyers on time have been content to accept chests of Patna so long as they contained the regular number of forty bulls, and the seller's delivering comparatively heavy chests in place of lighter ones was looked upon as a concession on his part, which he was not absolutely called upon to make.

The subject may be dismissed with these remarks; as although it would be possible to give many other details which would probably be of considerable interest to individuals if not to the general public, it is not worth while doing so, because, as above observed, the matter is one rather for the con-

sideration of the trade than for newspaper controversy. It would no doubt be easy to come to some definite understanding, if a meeting of those interested in the subject were convened and the various opium merchants fixed a certain weight, which should once for all be considered the ordinary weight of a chest of Patna sold on time. How far those who are engaged in regard to transactions already concluded would be willing to acquiesce in such a decision, of course remains to be seen; but if the weight decided upon were a fair average, it is probable that no difficulty would be found on this score. We can only, in conclusion, say that it is to be regretted that a simple and practical plan of this nature was not resolved to before.

OPENING OF THE SEAMEN'S CHURCH

The new Seamen's Church was opened yesterday with a Communion Service in the morning, and a full Evening Service at 5.30. A large number of ladies and gentlemen were present at the latter, and the building was nearly filled. The prayers were read by the Rev. T. Talbot, Sub-judge of the Court of Arbitration, and Mr. K. K. Collier Chapman, the second lesson by the Rev. Mr. Hutchinson, and the sermon was preached by the Rev. J. Piper. The Cathedral Choir sang the ordinary Choral Service. Mr. A. Lister presiding officially at the harmonium. Mr. Piper's eloquent sermon was founded upon the narrative of the building of the second Temple. He thought the strong feeling of thankfulness manifested by the Jews on the completion of the Temple, in a cockle shell, which showed that the attention was growing up to the wants of that part of the Colony, especially amongst the seamen frequenting the harbour. There was a necessity for the rebuilding of the Temple in the time of Haggai, since the people had forgotten the rites of their church, and had only heard beaten music, with such din, pomp, and folly as often found in China. So the Chinese had to learn the art of the distance of the distance of that part of the town from the church, and the proximity of the Home, where there were many honest and tender hearts which only wanted to be recalled to the associations of earlier days. Four and a half years ago these services were commenced in the Home. The need of a church was felt by the Bishop and others, who exerted themselves to raise subscriptions. The sum of £200 was given by the sailors of the ship Hongkong, and the Government gave £100 towards the cost. The amount of £300 was decided upon, and the merchants submitted with privately munificent, and others equally willing but not so wealthy gave what they could: so in ten months after the laying of the first stone this beautiful building, which would serve as a lasting monument of the skill and taste of the architect, had reached its completion. Few churches had been finished so quickly, or were so little debt-bound. The Chinese had contributed £200. The Chinese had given £100, and the Chinese labourers, over the roof of the intervening three houses, had built the upper portion of the dome over the gables filling the narrow approaches. The police, however, were active in clearing the way and keeping it open. A strong steam of water was first thrown by No. 1 Co's engine, and at once defined the limits of the fire in a northward direction; the Dolby soon followed; both these engines finding their supply in the Church well, and the fire spread rapidly, keeping the singer from leaping through the windows and canvas covered partition which invited its advance in that direction. At the back they were similarly employed—a quantity of straw, stable furniture, paints and oil, and such inflammable material as were found in the store. The engines were soon turned to the front, and the fire was extinguished. The police, however, were active in clearing the way and keeping it open. From the neighbouring chamber, wrapped round some of the walls, it crept into the vestry of the Arch of the Apostles containing St. Paul in prison. Sir, what shall I do to be saved? said. Now had this page of the Bible been burned, it would have never fallen into the hands of one forbid to search the Scriptures. Chaudhury and others who deal in small wares prefer to use waste paper on account of its cheapness, and therefore, unconsciously but effectually, distribute or scatter by hand, not knowing where it may spring up and bear fruit.

ONE WAY OF DISTRIBUTING BIBLES.

A controversy is being carried on in the colonies of the world as to what ought to be done with worn-out Bibles. Burning has been suggested, but the sentimental objection to that mode of disposal is admitted, and the alternative proposed of sending the worn sheets to the paper mill to be melted down and made over again. It is not, however, a correspondent news item that the Chinese have done this. During Kiawmar's reign it was discovered that the paper mill was producing a fine quality of paper, which was sold to the Chinese people among the earliest indigenes. But the Chinese both cultivated the poppy in one or more provinces, and consumed it to the extent of many thousand pounds annually, long before there was any attempt to import the Indian drug, seems more than probable. We are responsible, therefore, for the extent of dealing with the Chinese in this particular only, but during Kiawmar's reign it was discovered that the paper mill was producing a fine quality of paper, which was sold to the Chinese people among the earliest indigenes. But the Chinese both cultivated the poppy in one or more provinces, and consumed it to the extent of many thousand pounds annually, long before there was any attempt to import the Indian drug, seems more than probable. We are responsible, therefore, for the extent of dealing with the Chinese in this particular only, but during Kiawmar's reign it was discovered that the paper mill was producing a fine quality of paper, which was sold to the Chinese people among the earliest indigenes. But the Chinese both cultivated the poppy in one or more provinces, and consumed it to the extent of many thousand pounds annually, long before there was any attempt to import the Indian drug, seems more than probable. 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Extracts.

Behind the Combats.
"Two days before Paris, second day," by Jacob de Liefde, in *Good Words*.

The night had been very cold, the morning was raw and chilly. A sufficient quantity of rain had fallen to make the soil somewhat slippery and marching difficult, and although the sun did shine at the hour of the departure of the troops, it was but with a wan and sickly smile, while the rising wind seemed to sobs and mourn for the horrors of the coming day. If I remember rightly, the soldiers were ordered to leave their knapsacks at home and carry nothing save their cloaks. This may have given them a greater appearance of ease and jauntiness than if they had been loaded with all their baggage; I know, at any rate, that they had come to be at an early hour, and that this sergents had been particularly ordered to set to their breakfast, so that when we saw sundry small detachments crossing the market square towards the place of meeting at the east end of the town, I was struck by the fine appearance of the men and the determined way in which they moved their legs and swung their heavy arms like one huge machine. It was now evident that they were not going for a mere walk. Strange to say, had their excursion been one of drill only, their appearance would have been ten times more swollen and doubtful; had their destination been the parade-ground instead of the battle-field, their faces would have been longer by at least an inch, and a good deal more melancholy. My companion recognised some of his special countrymen as our own parades, and rushed down to shake hands with them all round. To some, some in fact, fully aware of the leave-taking, and that still I would go, the hearty shake of more than the giant's hand, horny and hard with honest toil, accompanied by a smiling and light-hearted "Adieu" to take him to "Mutter" in Breslau. As we followed them down to the principal street we could scarcely help being infected by the excitement. It was about seven o'clock when we saw the first intelligence reached Gonesse. I happened to be at the Bureau of the head-quarters when we again reached the square, the guard had turned out for the commandant, whom we found on horseback in conversation with the captain of the garrison company. This Captain von Gruben had attracted my attention on the previous evening by his unusual silence and air of suffering; I had been told that he received a bullet in the chest in the battle of Gravelotte, which, although extracted, still caused him severe pain and rendered him more or less an invalid. He had been ordered home more than once by the doctors, but his remonstrances had hitherto prevailed over their decrees; for professional soldier as he was, and captain of the first company, he altogether rejected the idea of leaving his men to do all the work by themselves. His master von Kleist asked us laughingly whether we had not been requisitioned yet, and advised us either to climb to the church steeple, from whence a good view might be obtained, or to follow him out of the town to where the commanding general was to take up his position. We chose the latter, and drove slowly out of the town to the spot which he had indicated. The streets were now all but deserted, but in the spacious yards of the farm-houses which had been given to the field-post, the endanour, and the regimental staff, we again saw all the wagons harnessed and ready for immediate departure. It was shortly after seven when the firing from the forts became very loud, and immediately therupon the sharp salvos of the Prussian field-artillery told us that the action had commenced. It had been ordered that the joint batteries of the division should bombard Le Bourget for the space of one hour, ready to torch the occupants, partly to allow the guards to carry out their movements without attracting too much attention. As we gained a slight eminence, we saw the Prussian batteries about a mile in front of us doing their work steadily. Neither the fort nor Le Bourget were visible; but we distinctly heard the return fire from both, and with our glasses we could observe the effect which the French shells occasionally had upon the attacking batteries. The high road from Sevres to Paris lay on our left; the dark line of men moved slowly, but steadily, in the direction of the capital. For the next two miles they were still invisible to the French eyes, for although the Prussian outposts, for although they had been ordered to do so, had entrenched themselves in a small mud-fortress, the Prussians very wisely gave up the attempt. They were now in so far at a disadvantage that they knew nothing of the approaching enemy until he had come within a thousand yards, and even then the view was as interrupted by trees and bushes that his actual strength could only be surmised. Somewhat to our left, and near the field batteries, we observed a group of horsemen, who seemed to follow the operations with great interest, and from the coming and going of several lancers and hussars we surmised that it was the Commanding General, the Prince of Altenberg, and his staff. Knowing that he was almost as unpopular as the Red Prince, and quite as much incensed against anything that flavoured of literature and the press, we resolved to keep at a safe distance, lest the order of the previous night might be unexpectedly carried out. I have already said that the village itself was invisible, although a few of the house-tops might be seen through the trees. The flash and smoke from the forts and the advanced batteries, however, were very distinct, and we judged by the increase of their fire that they must by this time have arrived at the conclusion that the field-batteries, which could by no possible means reach them, must have some serious and less distant object. The sky had become clouded, and a drizzling rain began to fall; the atmosphere, which was at no time very clear, became still more opaque; and we had just resolved to return to the town and try if the church steeple could afford a better prospect, when, as we were turning to go, the field batteries in front of us suddenly ceased fire. We knew that this must be the moment when the head of the advancing column of Elizabeth reached the highest point of the road, for from that moment there was great danger of their being hit by their own shells. We could see the column halting, and then moving on at the same steady rate, while two small columns detached themselves, and took a side path to the right and left. Then all was suspense. When the field artillery ceased, the forts had as suddenly diminished their fire, and we now listened with bated breath for the first rifle shot, knowing as we did that the battalion was now marching on a straight road gently sloping towards a village, the houses of which were bristling with guns. A complete silence reigned even amongst the stars. Crack! went a chassepot. The second was unmistakable. One, two, three followed, in quick succession as the outposts saw the enemy. They replied with amazing rapidity; the sharp crack repeated itself as quickly as a marble dancing on stone. "There goes the old coffee-mill," ejaculated

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It was shortly after seven when the firing from the forts became very loud, and immediately therupon the sharp salvos of the Prussian field-artillery told us that the action had commenced. It had been ordered that the joint batteries of the division should bombard Le Bourget for the space of one hour, ready to torch the occupants, partly to allow the guards to carry out their movements without attracting too much attention. As we gained a slight eminence, we saw the Prussian batteries about a mile in front of us doing their work steadily. Neither the fort nor Le Bourget were visible; but we distinctly heard the return fire from both, and with our glasses we could observe the effect which the French shells occasionally had upon the attacking batteries. The high road from Sevres to Paris lay on our left; the dark line of men moved slowly, but steadily, in the direction of the capital. For the next two miles they were still invisible to the French eyes, for although the Prussian outposts, for although they had been ordered to do so, had entrenched themselves in a small mud-fortress, the Prussians very wisely gave up the attempt. They were now in so far at a disadvantage that they knew nothing of the approaching enemy until he had come within a thousand yards, and even then the view was as interrupted by trees and bushes that his actual strength could only be surmised. Somewhat to our left, and near the field batteries, we observed a group of horsemen, who seemed to follow the operations with great interest, and from the coming and going of several lancers and hussars we surmised that it was the Commanding General, the Prince of Altenberg, and his staff. Knowing that he was almost as unpopular as the Red Prince, and quite as much incensed against anything that flavoured of literature and the press, we resolved to keep at a safe distance, lest the order of the previous night might be unexpectedly carried out. I have already said that the village itself was invisible, although a few of the house-tops might be seen through the trees. The flash and smoke from the forts and the advanced batteries, however, were very distinct, and we judged by the increase of their fire that they must by this time have arrived at the conclusion that the field-batteries, which could by no possible means reach them, must have some serious and less distant object. The sky had become clouded, and a drizzling rain began to fall; the atmosphere, which was at no time very clear, became still more opaque; and we had just resolved to return to the town and try if the church steeple could afford a better prospect, when, as we were turning to go, the field batteries in front of us suddenly ceased fire. We knew that this must be the moment when the head of the advancing column of Elizabeth reached the highest point of the road, for from that moment there was great danger of their being hit by their own shells. We could see the column halting, and then moving on at the same steady rate, while two small columns detached themselves, and took a side path to the right and left. Then all was suspense. When the field artillery ceased, the forts had as suddenly diminished their fire, and we now listened with bated breath for the first rifle shot, knowing as we did that the battalion was now marching on a straight road gently sloping towards a village, the houses of which were bristling with guns. A complete silence reigned even amongst the stars. Crack! went a chassepot. The second was unmistakable. One, two, three followed, in quick succession as the outposts saw the enemy. They replied with amazing rapidity; the sharp crack repeated itself as quickly as a marble dancing on stone. "There goes the old coffee-mill," ejaculated

Notes of Observing the Prussian Army.

It may be as well to give a brief outline of the manner in which commissions are obtained. About fifty cadets annually, from the highest class of the Berlin Cadet House, now fell to close to that the staff deemed it advisable to retire a few hundred yards, while we resolved in despair to return to the town and investigate from the steppes. The few inhabitants of Gonesse were not ignorant of the state of affairs, and their looks betrayed their feelings. Even the Vietnamese landlord of the restaurant stood in his door, conversing with two other men in an animated manner, and from their gesticulations I am sure they were eagerly on the look-out for the advanced guard of General Duerer's army driving everything before it. The garrison was all under arms, leisurely patrolling the deserted streets, but they took it very quietly, and the inhabitants were pretty much allowed to do what they liked. To our great disappointment, we found the steeple equally unsatisfactory. 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